

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit, comprising:

a plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries;

extracting means for extracting the contents of specific dictionaries as a list of queuing words;

storage means for temporarily storing the extracted list of queuing words;

recognition means for recognizing an input speech ~~voice~~ command by comparing the input speech ~~voice~~ command and the list of queuing words stored in the storage means; and the speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit characterized by;

setting means for permitting a user to preset a narrowing-down condition, and wherein

the extracting means extracts a dictionary at the highest level of the hierarchy, and a dictionary associated with the narrowing-down condition preset by the user, as the list of queuing words from the plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries, when a recognition process starts.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit according to claim 12, wherein the extracting means extracts from the plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries, a lower-order hierarchical dictionary of a dictionary used for

recognition by the recognition means each time the recognition of the recognition means is performed, until a recognition result of the recognition means becomes an institutional name.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit according to claim 12, wherein the plurality of speech recognition dictionaries comprises:

- a classification dictionary storing classification names of institutions; and
- an institution dictionary storing names of institutions which belong to respective classifications of institutions.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit according to claim 12, wherein the plurality of speech recognition dictionaries comprises:

- an area dictionary storing area names; and
- an institution dictionary storing the names of institutions existing in respective areas.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A speech ~~voice~~ recognition method for a speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit having a plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries, the method comprising:

- extracting the contents of specific dictionaries as a list of queuing words;
- temporarily storing the extracted list of queuing words;
- recognizing an input speech ~~voice~~ command by comparing the input speech ~~voice~~ command and the list of queuing words; and
- permitting a user to preset a narrowing-down condition, wherein

the extracting extracts a dictionary at the highest level of the hierarchy, and a dictionary associated with the narrowing-down condition preset by the user, as the list of queuing words from the plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries, when a recognition process starts.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A speech ~~voice~~ recognition unit, comprising:

- a plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries;
- an extractor for extracting the contents of specific dictionaries as a list of queuing words;
- a storage for temporarily storing the extracted list of queuing words;
- a recognizer for recognizing an input speech ~~voice~~ command by comparing the input speech ~~voice~~ command and the list of queuing words stored in the storage; and
- a setting device for permitting a user to preset a narrowing-down condition,

wherein the extractor extracts a dictionary at the highest level of the hierarchy, and a dictionary associated with the narrowing-down condition preset by the user, as the list of queuing words from the plurality of hierarchically stored speech recognition dictionaries, when a recognition process starts.